



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

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RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, April 25, 2008 -- Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 89.6 million pounds during March. This was up 6 percent from one year ago and up 7 percent from last month. For March, pork production was up from one year ago, while sheep and lamb production was down, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 416,500 head during March compared to 391,400 head the year before. Average live weight was 256 pounds, which was down 4 pounds from March 2007.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 200 head during March compared to 900 head a year earlier. Average live weight was 123 pounds, which was down 9 pounds from March 2007.

Commercial slaughter data for cattle is not published.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/nass/LiveSlau/2000s/2008/LiveSlau-04-25-2008.pdf>